

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the Claims as follows:

C2

1 Claim 1. (Amended) A method of producing elastomer masterbatch, comprising:  
2 feeding a continuous flow of first fluid comprising elastomer latex to a  
3 mixing zone of a coagulum reactor defining an elongate coagulum zone extending  
4 from the mixing zone to a discharge end;  
5 feeding a continuous flow of second fluid comprising particulate filler  
6 under pressure to the mixing zone of the coagulum reactor to form a mixture with  
7 the elastomer latex, the mixture passing as a continuous flow to the discharge end  
8 and the particulate filler being effective to coagulate the elastomer latex, wherein  
9 feeding of the second fluid against [mixing of the first fluid and] the second fluid  
10 within the mixing zone is sufficiently energetic to substantially completely  
11 coagulate the elastomer latex with the particulate filler prior to the discharge end;  
12 and  
13 discharging a substantially continuous flow of elastomer masterbatch from  
14 the discharge end of the coagulum reactor.

C3

1 Claim 8. (Amended) A continuous flow method of preparing elastomer masterbatch of  
2 particulate filler dispersed in elastomer, comprising:  
3 A) establishing a continuous, semi-confined flow of [mixed] combined  
4 elastomer latex and particulate filler under pressure in a coagulum reactor forming  
5 an elongate coagulum zone extending with progressively increasing cross-sectional  
6 area from an entry end to a discharge end, by simultaneously  
7 (i) feeding elastomer latex fluid continuously to a mixing zone at the  
8 entry end of the coagulum reactor, and  
9 (ii) entraining the elastomer latex fluid into particulate filler fluid by  
10 feeding the particulate filler fluid as a continuous jet into the mixing zone